

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2639

ANSWERED ON:18.08.2006

PLANT BASED PESTICIDES .

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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether there is a proposal to develop plant based pesticides;
- (b) If so, the progress achieved so far;
- (c) Whether any formulations have been demonstrated positive;
- (d) If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) The time by which this formulation will come for commercial use?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e) The Department of Biotechnology has supported a coordinated research project on development of plant based pesticides. Under this project, till date 694 samples from 61 species have been prepared and screened against eight test insects. Samples from six plants showed positive results against Diamond Back Moth, Aphid Tobacco caterpillar, Cabbage semilooper, mosquito and the red spider mite respectively. Results were reviewed and studies related to product development were narrowed down to four species. Till date 55 formulations have been prepared and screened. Three formulations have so far demonstrated positive activity against Diamond Back Moth, the aphid and mosquitoes respectively. These formulations are to be taken up for limited scale field trials for further evaluation.